

we had that fee when we used to have a system that used rotary dials. We now have replaced all of those switches, so we actually fit touch-tone dialing. But Lincoln Tele and Tele still makes a special charge for the technology which it already has in place. Can we get rid of that fee? No, we have no mechanism. Why? The Legislature gave it away. This bill gives us more power so we can give more away to industry to do this to our customers? Nebraska sits here without the kind of authority that produced hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars of return to phone customers around the country in the last two years, powers that have been exercised by as many as 30 states to reduce phone rates, because of the access charges in part that Senator Matzke referred to. But...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...we don't have the power. Why? Because the Legislature gave it away. And LR 41 says, don't worry, give us all the power back to the Legislature so we can give it away some more. We have poorly served the customers of this state. We have poorly served the consumer. We have not been a voice for the consumer whatsoever, and in that estimation returning us the power...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...to undo consumers' rights even more seems to me a manifest mistake.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Madam President, members of the body, oooh, had a good jolt out of that one. I missed Friday, sorry to say, because of the weather. And apparently we're taking off right where we were on Friday. You know I really, four or five years ago, I didn't know exactly what the PSC really did. I remember the old railway commission from years ago, basically the same thing. And since I've been here I've had the opportunity to use the Public Service Commission much more than I ever thought I would. Little people, the person who never says much, never has a big problem, say he has a problem. One good thing about the Public Service Commission is that small individual can go to his commissioner within the PSC, similar to the...they can do with their state legislator. And I've had some good results, in the